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|---|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Examiner-Initiated Interview Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|   | 10/791,797             | OKUBO, NOBUYUKI     |  |
|   | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|   | Bernard Krasnic        | 2624                |  |

**All Participants:****Status of Application:** \_\_\_\_\_(1) Bernard Krasnic (Examiner).

(3) \_\_\_\_\_.

(2) David Pitcher (Reg. No. 25,908).

(4) \_\_\_\_\_.

**Date of Interview:** 12 September 2007**Time:** 11:30am**Type of Interview:**

- ☒ Telephonic  
☐ Video Conference  
☐ Personal (Copy given to: ☐ Applicant ☐ Applicant's representative)

**Exhibit Shown or Demonstrated:** ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, provide a brief description:

**Part I.**

Rejection(s) discussed:

Claims discussed:

1-7

Prior art documents discussed:

**Part II.****SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW DESCRIBING THE GENERAL NATURE OF WHAT WAS DISCUSSED:***See Continuation Sheet***Part III.**

- ☒ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview directly resulted in the allowance of the application. The examiner will provide a written summary of the substance of the interview in the Notice of Allowability.
- ☐ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview did not result in resolution of all issues. A brief summary by the examiner appears in Part II above.

Bernard Krasnic  
(Examiner/SPE Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature – if appropriate)

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was discussed: The Examiner initiated a call to the Applicant's attorney, Mr. Pitcher, in order to offer an Examiners Amendment to expedite prosecution. The Examiner suggested correcting some lack of antecedent basis 35 U.S.C. 112 2nd paragraph rejects and some minor claim objections. Mr. Pitcher after contacting his Applicant faxed an amendment proposal to the Examiner which is attached to this interview summary. The Examiner agreed to these amendments.

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**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

September 12, 2007

TO : U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTN: Examiner Krasnic

GROUP UNIT NO.: 2621

FAX NO.: 571-270-2357

TELEPHONE:

FROM: David M. Pitcher 

RE: Serial No.: 10/791,797

OUR DOCKET: 1391.1058

NO. OF PAGES (Including this Cover Sheet) 5

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COMMENTS:

Docket No.: 1391.1058

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of:

Nobuyuki OKUBO

Serial No. 10/791,797

Group Art Unit: 2621

Confirmation No. 5230

Filed: March 4, 2004

Examiner: Krasnic

For: IMAGE READING APPARATUS

**COMMUNICATION TO THE EXAMINER**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Per our telephone interview on September 11, 2007, enclosed one Proposed Claim Amendments for your review.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date:

September 12, 2007

By:

David M. Pitcher  
David M. Pitcher  
Registration No. 25,908

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**PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

Please AMEND claims 1, and 3-7 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An image reading apparatus for reading an image which contains character information, the apparatus comprising:  
labeling process unit to group a continuous black pixel area forming characters contained in a read black and white monochrome image of two gray levels, and extracting group bounding rectangle information about a grouped continuous black pixel area;  
overlap integrating process unit to determine overlap between grouped group bounding rectangles, and integrating overlapping group bounding rectangles; and  
language determining process unit to obtain ~~a~~ an overlap integration ratio of ~~the a~~ number of group bounding rectangles integrated in an overlap integrating process to ~~the a~~ number of group bounding rectangles before the overlap integrating process, and determining a language from a characteristic of the overlap integration ratio.
2. (ORIGINAL) The image reading apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:  
row extracting process unit to extract row rectangle information from position information about a group bounding rectangle of the continuous black pixel area extracted and grouped by the labeling process unit when a document includes graphics and pictures,  
wherein the overlap integrating process and the language determining process are performed on a group bounding rectangle contained in a row rectangle extracted by the row extracting process unit.
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The image reading apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

binarizing process unit to binarize multi-valued image data when an image read by an image input device is a multi-valued image such as a color image, or a multilevel gray scale image, etc.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The image reading apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

statistical determination process unit to perform a language determining process of determining a language from the overlap integration ratio on a plurality of rows contained in an original image, and determining in a statistical process a language determined as a language of characters contained in most rows as a language of characters contained in the original image.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The image reading apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

statistical determination process unit to perform a language determining process of determining a language from the overlap integration ratio on a plurality of rows contained in an original image, and determining in a statistical process a language determined as a language of characters contained in most rows as a language of characters contained in the original image.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The image reading apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

binarizing process unit to binarize multi-valued image data when an image read by an image input device is a multi-valued image such as a color image, or a multilevel gray scale image, etc.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The image reading apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:

statistical determination process unit to perform a language determining process of determining a language from the overlap integration ratio on a plurality of rows contained in an original image, and determining in a statistical process a language determined as a language of characters contained in most rows as a language of characters contained in the original image.